

WE CLAIM:

1. A package having a locking mechanism and reinforced cell, comprising:
a blank having:

a first panel having a top flap extending away from a top edge of the first panel and an extension panel extending away from a top edge of the top flap,

a second panel, and

a third panel, wherein the third panel is foldable over the first panel, and the first and third panel are foldable over the second panel;

a first side panel disposed between the first and second panels;

a second side panel disposed between the first and third panels;

a third side panel extending away from a side of the second panel;

a fourth side panel extending away from a side of the third panel, wherein the first side panel overlaps the fourth side panel and the third side panel overlaps the second side panel;

reinforcing means for reinforcing the cell formed by the overlapping first and third panels, wherein the extension panel is slidable into a cell space created between the overlapping first and third panels; and

a locking mechanism provided at a top edge of the second panel, wherein the reinforcing means is provided on the third panel and engages an interior face of the first panel, and wherein the locking mechanism engages the extension panel to place the package in a locked state and releases the extension panel of the first panel to place the package in an unlocked state.

2. The package according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing means comprises a top flap extending from a top edge of the third panel, wherein the top flap of the third panel is foldable over a score line at the top edge of the third panel.

3. The package according to claim 2, wherein the top flap of the third panel comprises at least one upper edge which engages the interior face of the first panel.

4. The package according to claim 2, wherein the top flap of the third panel comprises a pair of upper edges separated by a cut away and wherein the pair of upper edges engage the interior face of the first panel.

5. The package according to claim 2, wherein the top flap of the third panel folds approximately 90° over the score line at the top edge of the third panel.

6. The package according to claim 2, wherein the reinforcing means further comprises a bottom flap extending away from a bottom edge of the third panel, wherein the bottom flap of the third panel is foldable over a fold line at the bottom edge of the third panel.

7. The package according to claim 6, wherein the bottom flap of the third panel comprises a bottom edge which contacts the interior face of the first panel when bent over the fold line at the bottom edge of the third panel.

8. The package according to claim 6, wherein the bottom flap of the third panel folds approximately 90° over the fold line at the bottom edge of the third panel.

9. The package according to claim 1, further comprising a top flap extending away from the second panel, and wherein the locking mechanism further comprises an upper edge of the top flap of the second panel.

10. The package according to claim 1, further comprising a release means provided on the second panel.

11. The package according to claim 10, wherein the release means includes a push button defined by a hemi-cylindrical cut line formed in the second panel.

12. The package according to claim 1, wherein the extension panel comprises a first extension panel and a second extension panel extending away from the first extension panel, wherein the first extension panel is disposed between the top flap of the first panel and the second extension panel.

13. The package according to claim 12, wherein the second extension panel has a smaller surface area than a surface area of the first extension panel.

14. The package according to claim 12, further comprising a top flap extending away from the second panel, and wherein the locking mechanism further comprises an upper edge of the top flap of the second panel.

15. The package according to claim 14, wherein the upper edge of the top flap of the second panel engages the top edge of the second extension panel.

16. The package according to claim 14, further comprising a release means provided on the second panel.

17. The package according to claim 16, wherein the release means includes a push button defined by a hemi-cylindrical cut line formed in the second panel.